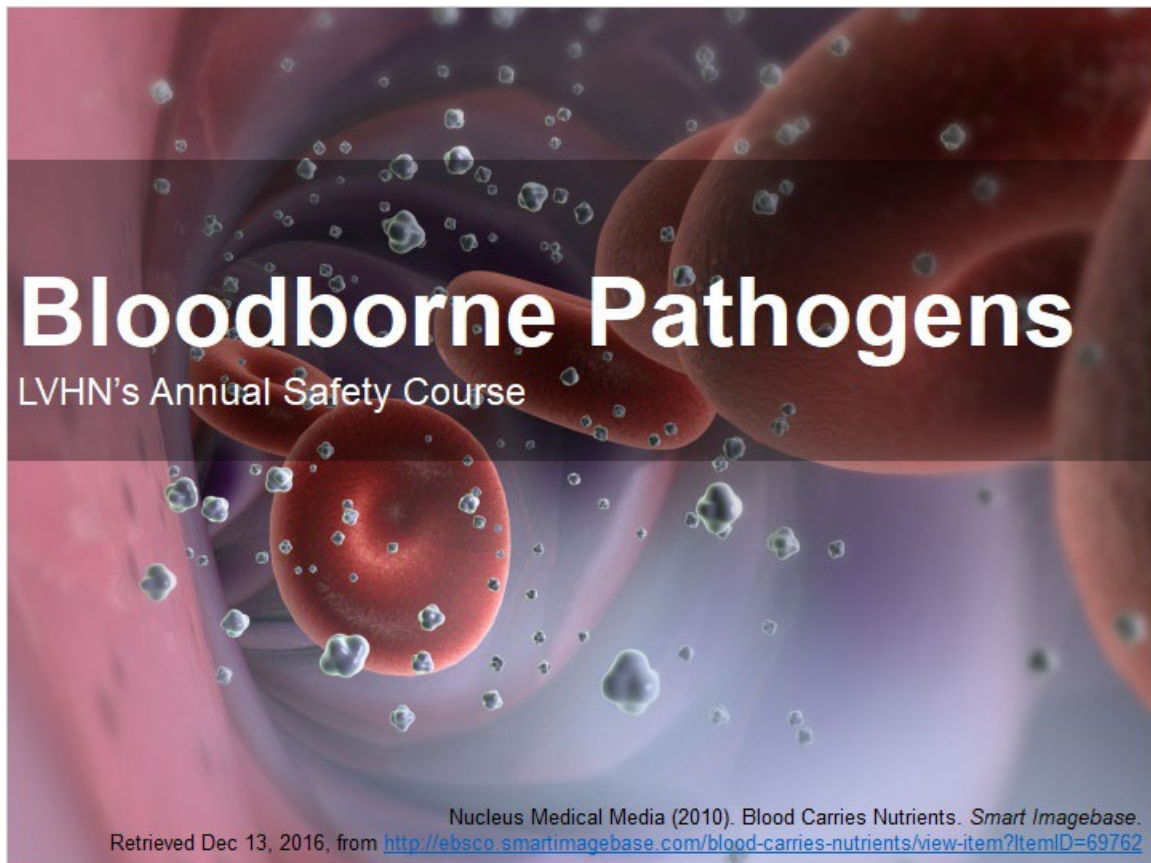


Bloodborne Pathogens

1. BBP

1.1 Bloodborne Pathogens



Notes:

Lehigh Valley Health Network cares about your safety – especially about protecting you from diseases carried in blood and other body fluids. Upon successful completion of the Bloodborne Pathogens course you will be able to discuss how bloodborne pathogens are transmitted in the healthcare setting and identify ways in which the healthcare provider can protect him or herself to help minimize the risk of acquiring a bloodborne disease.

1.2 Course Information

Course Information	
Course Title:	Bloodborne Pathogens – Annual Safety Course
Approximate Time to Complete:	15 minutes
Content Version:	N/A
Intended Audience:	All LVHN employed staff
Technical Specifications:	Internet Explorer 11, Course Contains No Audio PLEASE REVIEW NOTES TAB FOR MORE COURSE INFORMATION
Date Revised:	May 2022
Contact Information	
Please forward any content questions or concerns on blood and body fluid exposure prevention to:	Refer to the Resources tab for your site-specific Subject Matter Experts
Please call the I/S Support Center at 610-402-8303 with any technical issues.	

Notes:

The Bloodborne Pathogens course fulfills annual training requirements set by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The course will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Any technical issues related to the course or the eLearning system should be directed to the Technology Support Center at 610-402-8303.

1.3 Contact Information

Questions? Need additional info?


Lehigh Valley Region
Employee Health: 610-402-8869
Infection Control: 610-402-8999, request Infection Control

LVH-Dickson City
Employee Health: 570-476-3779
Infection Control: (610) 681-8080, option 5, extension 28026

LVH-Hazleton
Employee Health: 570-501-4788
Infection Control: 570-501-4073

LVH-Pocono
Employee Health: 570-476-3779
Infection Control: 570-476-3692

LVH-Schuylkill
Employee Health: 570-621-4351
Infection Control: 570-621-4360



Notes:

If, while completing this course, you have any content questions or would like additional information on blood and body fluid exposure prevention, please contact the appropriate personnel at your specific location:

Lehigh Valley Region

Employee Health: 610-402-8869

Infection Control: 610-402-8999, request Infection Control

LVH-Dickson City

Employee Health: 570-476-3779

Infection Control: (610) 681-8080, option 5, extension 28026

LVH-Hazleton

Employee Health: 570-501-4788

Infection Control: 570-501-4073

LVH-Pocono

Employee Health: 570-476-3779

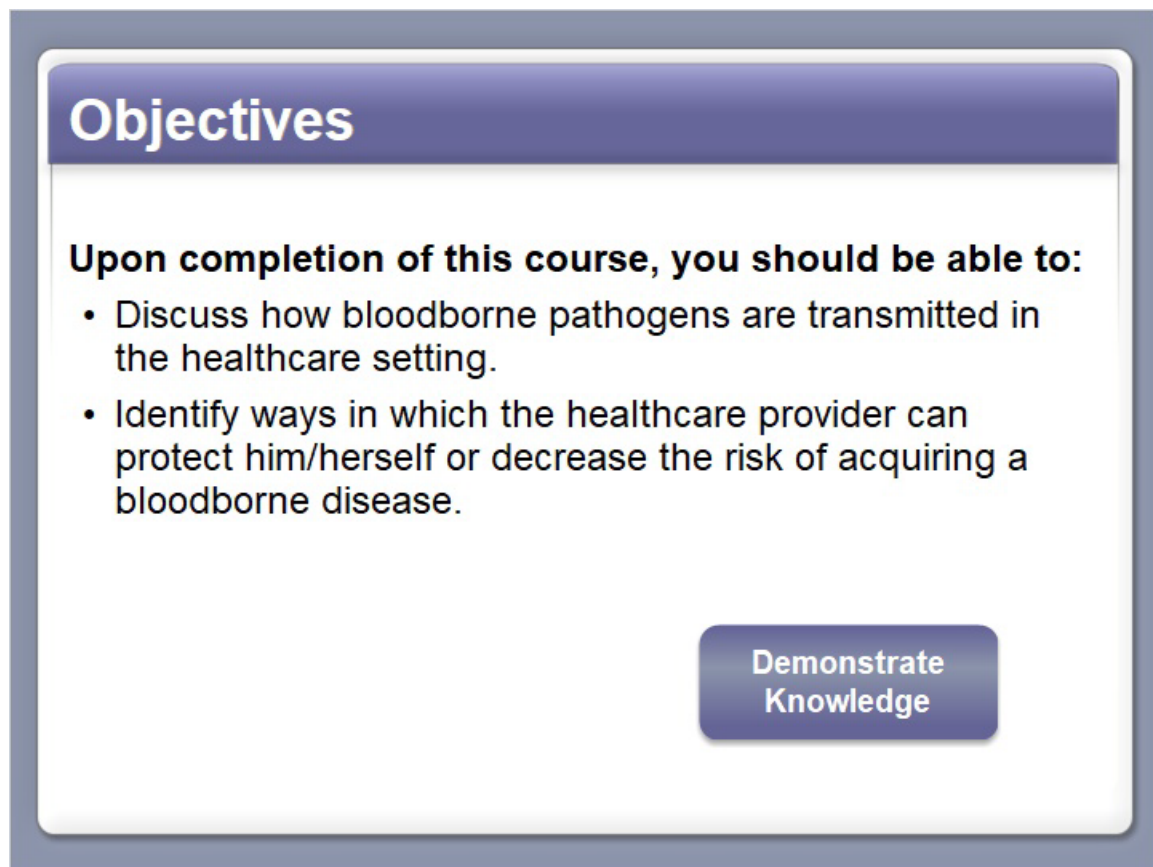
Infection Control: 570-476-3692

LVH-Schuykill

Employee Health: 570-621-4351

Infection Control: 570-621-4360

1.4 Objectives



Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Discuss how bloodborne pathogens are transmitted in the healthcare setting.
- Identify ways in which the healthcare provider can protect him/herself or decrease the risk of acquiring a bloodborne disease.

Demonstrate Knowledge

Notes:

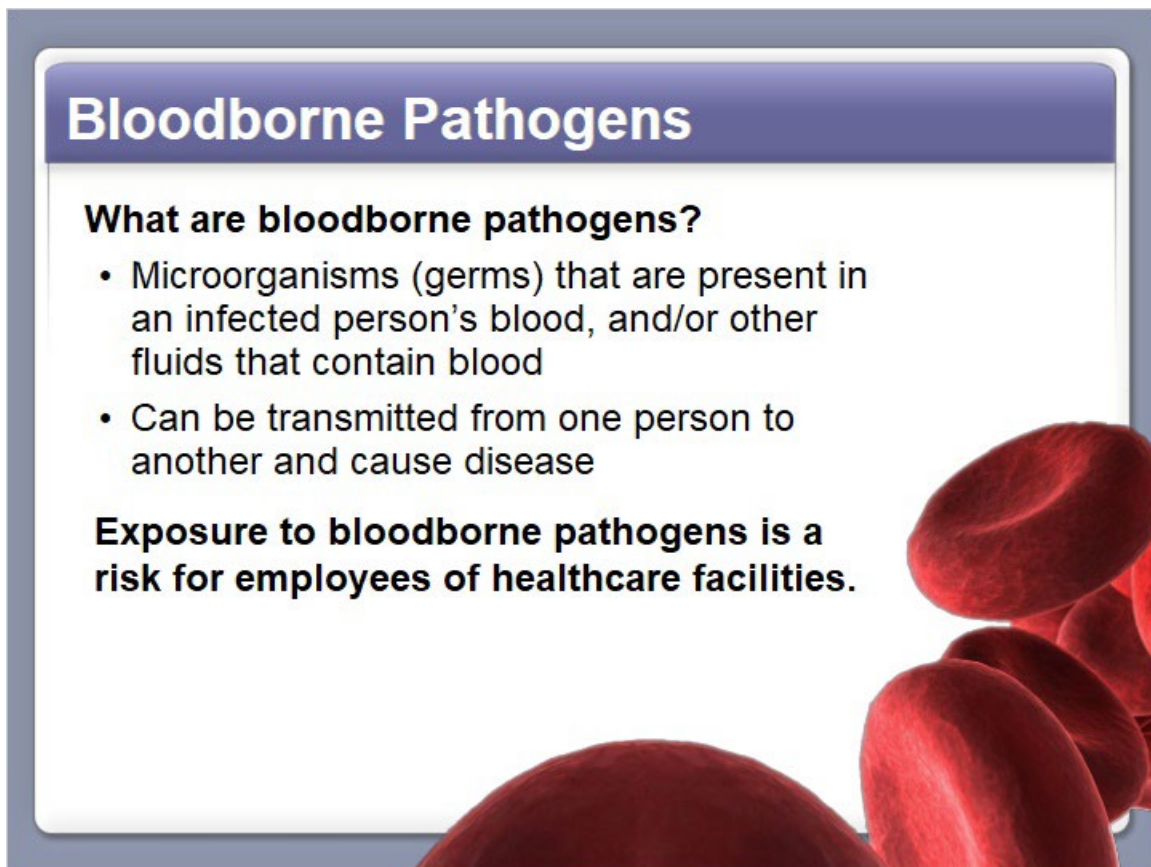
Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Discuss how bloodborne pathogens are transmitted in the healthcare setting.
- Identify ways in which the healthcare provider can protect him/herself or decrease the

risk of acquiring a bloodborne disease.

If you feel you have already mastered the content described in the course objectives and would like to demonstrate your knowledge, you may click the “Demonstrate Knowledge” button and move directly to the course test. You must earn a score of at least 80% on the test to successfully pass this course. However, it is suggested that you review the content as it has been updated. To continue onto the course content, please select the next button located at the bottom of the screen.

1.5 Bloodborne Pathogens



Bloodborne Pathogens

What are bloodborne pathogens?

- Microorganisms (germs) that are present in an infected person’s blood, and/or other fluids that contain blood
- Can be transmitted from one person to another and cause disease

Exposure to bloodborne pathogens is a risk for employees of healthcare facilities.

Notes:

Bloodborne pathogens are microorganisms (germs) that are present in an infected person’s blood and/or other body fluids that contain blood. Bloodborne pathogens can be transmitted from one person to another and cause disease. Exposure to bloodborne pathogens is a risk for employees of healthcare facilities.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration known commonly as OSHA estimates that millions of workers in the healthcare industry and related occupations are at risk of occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens, including human

immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the hepatitis B virus, and hepatitis C virus.

1.6 Who has the highest risk?

Who has the highest risk?

What do you think?

Which type of healthcare worker in the United States experiences the greatest number of HIV infection incidents at work?



Housekeepers **Physicians** **Nurses**

Notes:

Who has the highest risk?

Use your mouse to select the type of U.S. healthcare worker you think experiences the greatest number of HIV infection incidents at work.

Who has the highest risk?

The majority of HIV infections at work have occurred among nurses.



Housekeepers



Physicians



Nurses

1.7 How many are at risk?

How many are at risk?

What do you think?

In 1983 there were **over 17,000** occupationally acquired cases of Hepatitis B Virus in healthcare workers. How many cases do you think there were twelve years later in 1995, after vaccination of healthcare workers and better safety procedures became routine?

10,000

5,000

400

Notes:

The correct answer is only 400 healthcare workers became infected with hepatitis B virus in the workplace in 1995 due to increase of vaccinations along with preventative measures and the use of safety devices.

How many are at risk?

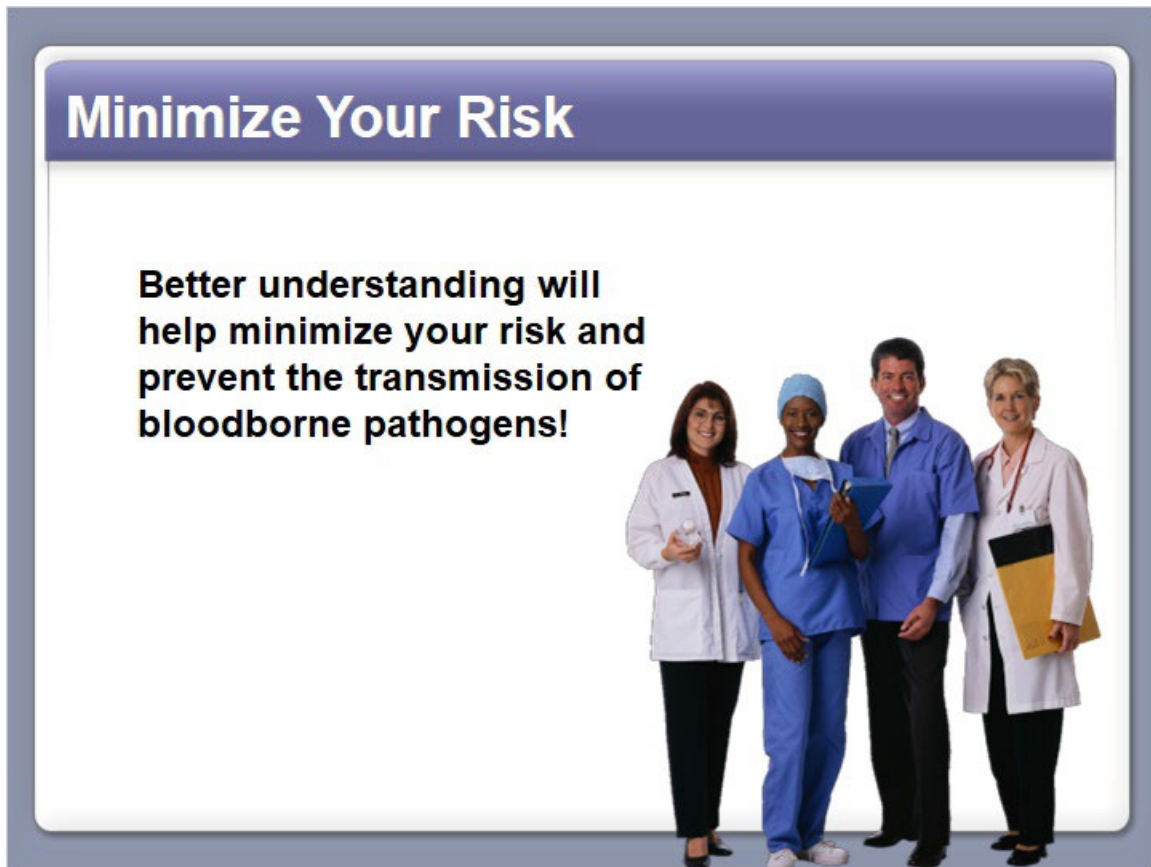
The correct answer is only 400 healthcare workers became infected with hepatitis B virus in the workplace in 1995 due to increase of vaccinations along with preventative measures and the use of safety devices.

10,000

5,000

400

1.8 Minimize Your Risk



Minimize Your Risk

Better understanding will help minimize your risk and prevent the transmission of bloodborne pathogens!

A photograph of four healthcare professionals standing together. From left to right: a woman in a white lab coat holding a small white bottle, a woman in blue scrubs and a blue surgical cap, a man in a blue lab coat holding a clipboard, and a woman in a white lab coat holding a yellow folder.

Notes:

By understanding the ideas in this safety course, you can help minimize your risk, and prevent the transmission of diseases such as those caused by HIV, the hepatitis B virus (HBV), and the hepatitis C virus (HCV).

1.9 Standard Precautions

Standard Precautions

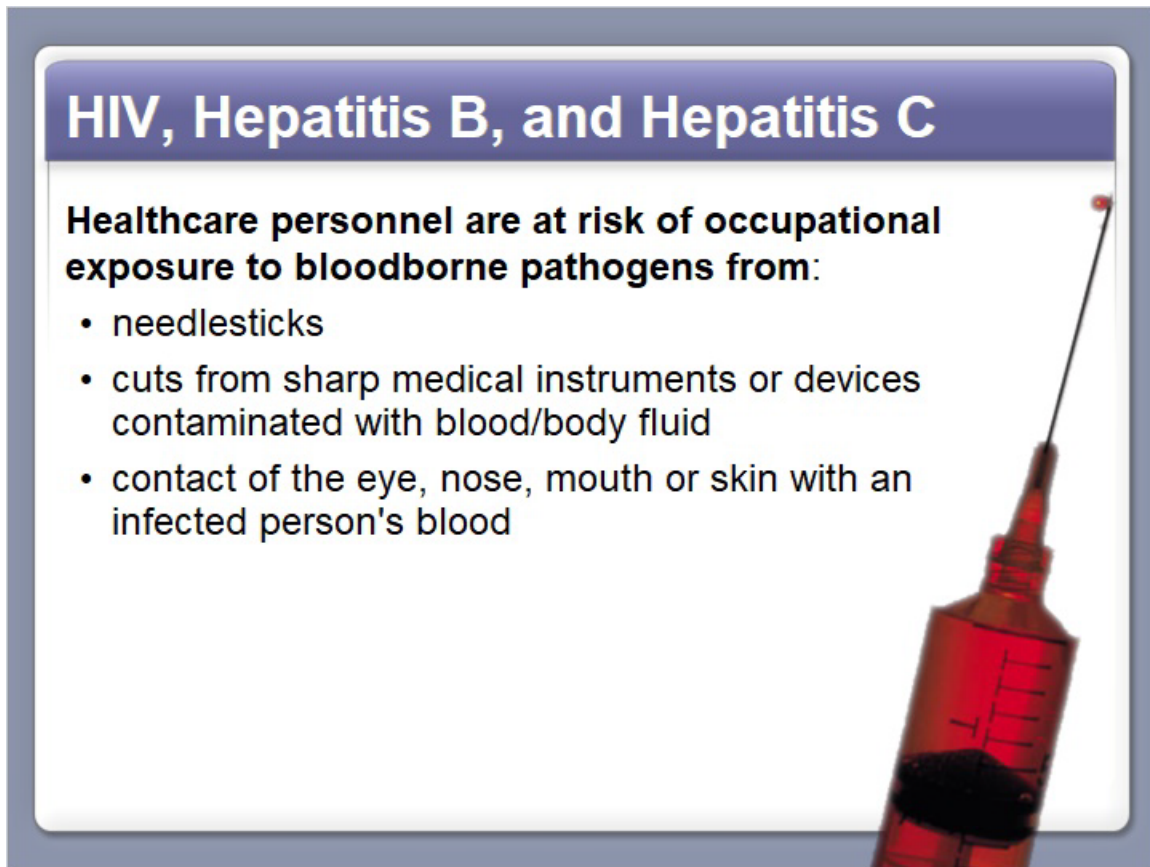
Handle any blood or body fluid as if it is infected.



Notes:

In the health care setting all personnel should implement STANDARD PRECAUTIONS when dealing with blood and body fluids. STANDARD PRECAUTIONS means that all blood and body fluids MUST be handled as if they are infected with a bloodborne pathogen.


1.10 HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C



HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C

Healthcare personnel are at risk of occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens from:

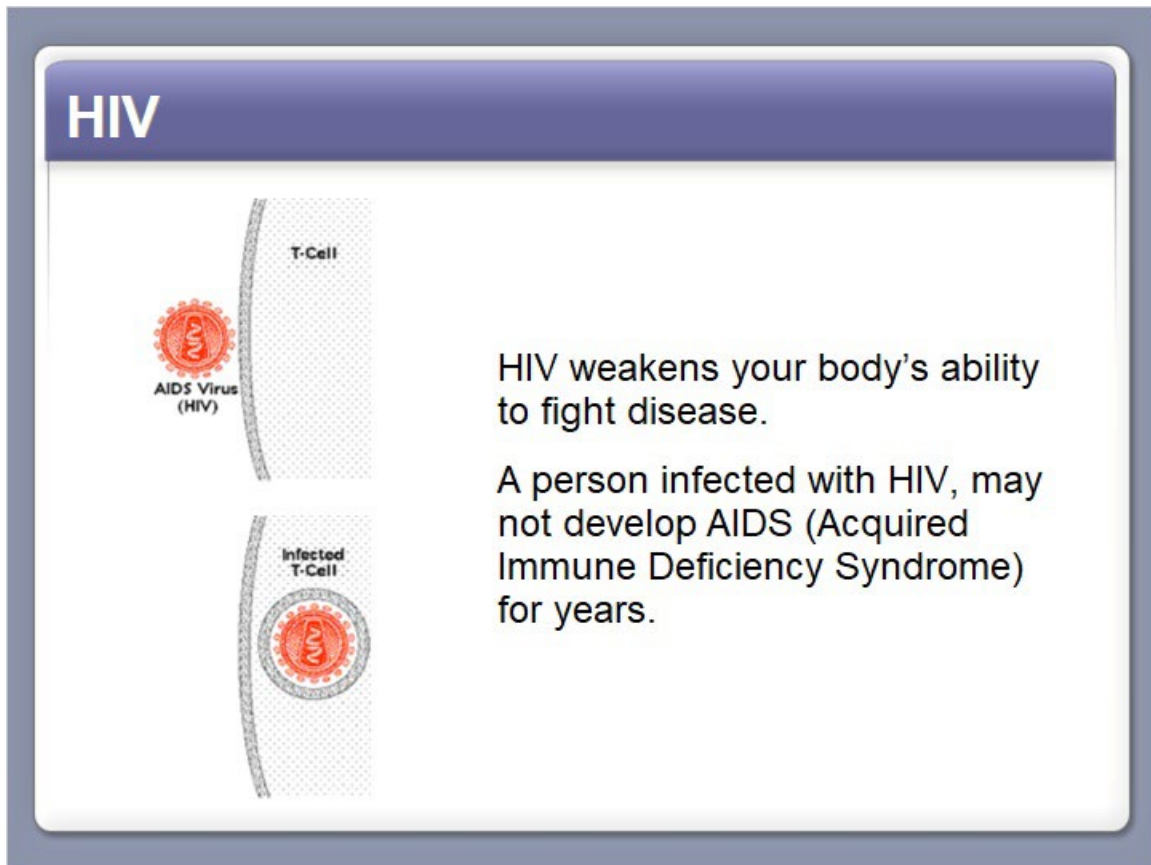
- needlesticks
- cuts from sharp medical instruments or devices contaminated with blood/body fluid
- contact of the eye, nose, mouth or skin with an infected person's blood



Notes:

Healthcare personnel are at risk for occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens, including HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C viruses. HIV, hepatitis B, and the hepatitis C viruses are carried in the blood of an infected person. The viruses can be transmitted from person to person through exposure to infected blood and/or body fluids that contain blood. In the healthcare setting exposures occur through needlesticks or cuts from other sharp instruments contaminated with an infected person's blood or through contact of the eye, nose, mouth, or skin with an infected person's blood.

1.11 HIV



Notes:


You may have heard more about HIV than about hepatitis. Although hepatitis disease is more common, there is no vaccine for HIV. HIV enters your body and weakens your body's ability to fight disease. Many times, HIV infections remain silent for years before developing into AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). Similarly, the hepatitis virus may lay undetected in your body for years before grave illness occurs.

1.12 Hepatitis B and C

Hepatitis B and C

Hepatitis B vaccine is available, free of charge, to LVHN employees who are at risk of occupational exposure to the virus or personnel who have an exposure incident.

Currently, there is no vaccine for hepatitis C. The best possible way to prevent hepatitis C is to protect yourself from exposure to blood and body fluid.



Notes:

A hepatitis B vaccine (a series of three injections) is available, free of charge, to LVHN employees who are at risk of occupational exposure to the virus or personnel who have an exposure incident.

Currently, there is no vaccine for hepatitis C. The best possible way to prevent hepatitis C is to protect yourself from exposure to blood and body fluid.

1.13 Hepatitis B Vaccine

Hepatitis B Vaccine

There are many reasons healthcare workers use to avoid getting the hepatitis B vaccine.

It's too expensive.

I don't like needles.

I don't have time.

I might get hepatitis from the vaccine.

Click on each of the excuses to learn why **NONE** of them are legitimate.

Notes:

There are many reasons healthcare workers use to avoid getting the hepatitis B vaccine. Using your mouse click on each of the excuses to learn why **NONE** of them are legitimate. If you have not received the vaccine and believe you are at risk, contact Employee Health Services at your specific location:

Lehigh Valley Region - 610-402-8869

LVH-Pocono - 570-476-3779

LVH-Schuylkill - 570-621-4351

LVH-Hazleton - 570-501-4788

too expensive (Slide Layer)

Hepatitis B Vaccine

There are many reasons healthcare workers use to avoid getting the hepatitis B vaccine.

It's too expensive.

I don't like needles.

I don't have time.


I might get hepatitis from the vaccine.

"Your employer must provide the vaccine at no cost."

dislike needles (Slide Layer)

Hepatitis B Vaccine

There are many reasons healthcare workers use to avoid getting the hepatitis B vaccine.



It's too expensive.

I don't like needles.

I don't have time.

I might get hepatitis from the vaccine.

"If you think the vaccination needle is big, wait until you see the big one that you'll need if you get hepatitis!"

no time (Slide Layer)

Hepatitis B Vaccine

There are many reasons healthcare workers use to avoid getting the hepatitis B vaccine.

It's too expensive.

I don't like needles.

I don't have time.

I might get hepatitis from the vaccine.

"You are entitled to receive the vaccine at work. You're there now. What are you waiting for?"



might get hepatitis (Slide Layer)

Hepatitis B Vaccine

There are many reasons healthcare workers use to avoid getting the hepatitis B vaccine.

It's too expensive.

I don't like needles.

I don't have time.

I might get hepatitis from the vaccine.

“There is absolutely no chance of getting hepatitis from the vaccine.”

1.14 Minimize Your Risk: Key Principles

Minimize Your Risk: Key Principles

Cover Protect Use Caution

Reduce your risk by understanding and practicing **these two KEY principles:**

Cover Non-Intact Skin & Mucous Membranes

Blood + Sharps = Danger

Click each tab above to learn how to minimize your risk.

Notes:


Untitled Layer 1 (Slide Layer)

Minimize Your Risk: Key Principles

Cover Protect Use Caution

Cover Non-Intact Skin

Cover cuts, scratches, abrasions, or sores with waterproof Band-Aids before you apply gloves or come in contact with body fluids.


An illustration of a right hand with a Band-Aid on the back of the wrist. The hand is shown from the side, with fingers slightly curled. The Band-Aid is a standard adhesive bandage with a white center and a tan border.

Minimize Your Risk: Key Principles

Cover Protect Use Caution

Cover Mucous Membranes

Protect your eyes, nose, and mouth when splattering of blood or body fluids is possible by wearing personal protective equipment (PPE).




Minimize Your Risk: Key Principles

Cover Protect Use Caution

Blood + Sharps = Danger
Protect yourself!

- Utilize needleless products
- Always activate the safety mechanisms
- NEVER recap used needles
- Point sharp objects away

Dispose of sharp objects properly

 The Biohazard symbol serves as a **WARNING**

1.15 Exposure

Exposure


If you are exposed to blood or body fluids:

1. Wash wound/ flush mucous membranes with water
2. Complete employee incident/ accident investigation form
3. Have the exposure assessed immediately.

Click on your location for site specific procedures.

[Click here for Lehigh Valley](#) [Click here for LVH-Dickson City](#) [Click here for LVH-H](#)

[Click here for LVH-P](#) [Click here for LVH-S](#)



Notes:

If you are exposed to blood or body fluids:


- Wash the puncture site, wound, or area with soap and water. If you were splashed in the eyes, nose, or mouth, flush the mucous membrane with large amounts of water.
- Complete Employee Incident Report/ Accident Investigation Form.

LVR (Slide Layer)

Exposure

Lehigh Valley Region

- Contact Employee Health
610-402-8869, option #5
- After 3pm, weekends,
holidays – report to the
Emergency Department




or

LVH-S (Slide Layer)

Exposure

LVH-Schuykill

- Contact Employee Health
570-621-4351
- After 3pm, weekends,
holidays – report to the
Emergency Department




or

LVH-H (Slide Layer)

Exposure

LVH-Hazleton

- Report to the Emergency Department




or

LVH-P (Slide Layer)

Exposure

LVH-Pocono

- Contact Employee Health
570-476-3779
- After 3pm, weekends,
holidays – report to the
Emergency Department




or

LVH-Dickson City (Slide Layer)

Exposure

LVH-Dickson City

- Contact Employee Health at 570-476-3779
- After 3pm, weekends, holidays – report to the Emergency Department



or

1.16 Pneumatic Tube System

Pneumatic Tube System

Clinical staff may use the pneumatic tube system to send specimens. Follow these precautions when using the pneumatic tube system:

- Use standard precautions to package the specimen
- Close securely in a biohazard bag
- Use foam liner to secure specimen in carrier



Notes:

Utilize the following precautions if sending blood and body fluid specimens via the pneumatic tube system.


- Follow standard precautions when packaging the specimen.
- Package the specimen in a biohazard bag and securely close.
- Secure the specimen in the pneumatic tube system carrier by using foam liner.

1.17 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE will **limit** but will not **eliminate** your risk.

Do not let your guard down when there is any possibility of exposure to bloodborne pathogens.



By Timely Medical via P (CC BY-SA 2.0) (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>) via Wikimedia

Notes:

The proper use of appropriate personal protective equipment can help limit but will not eliminate your risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens. Even when wearing protective equipment you cannot let your guard down when performing patient related tasks.

1.18 PPE (continued)


PPE (continued)

Wear gloves when expecting to:

- Touch contaminated items or surfaces
- Handle specimens
- Contact with patient's open skin lesions or mucous membranes
- Perform medical procedures

Always wash hands after removing gloves!

Please note: Gloves DO NOT protect from sharp objects.



Notes:

Wear gloves when expecting to:

- Touch items or surfaces contaminated with blood or body fluids
- Handle blood or body fluid specimens
- Come in contact with patients' open skin lesions or mucous membranes
- Perform medical procedures that access blood or other body fluids

Always wash hands after removing gloves!

Please note: gloves DO NOT protect from sharp objects.


1.19 PPE (continued)

PPE (continued)

Clinical staff who are regularly exposed to patient blood and body fluids have access to additional types of PPE.

Wear gloves, gown, mask, and eye protection when a splash or spray is possible.

Change out of contaminated clothing and wash your hands before going to clean areas.



Notes:

If there is a risk of body fluid splash or spray, you should wear gloves, gown, mask, and eye protection. Since blood might splatter, maximum protection is required. Wear protective clothing such as an apron, or other barrier gown when personal clothing is likely to become soiled. The type of protection depends on the task and the risk involved. Remember to change out of contaminated clothing and wash your hands before going to clean areas.

If you have any questions about what PPE to use, when to use it, or how the PPE should be used for a specific task that involves blood and/or other body fluids, please contact your supervisor.

1.20 Cleaning Spills

Cleaning Spills

Soak up spill, discard in biohazard bag, clean, then rinse and dry.

Spills: Clean spills of blood and other potentially infectious materials with a hospital approved disinfectant or a 1:10 dilution of freshly diluted sodium hypochlorite solution (bleach).

Wear appropriate PPE during all stages of the cleaning process.



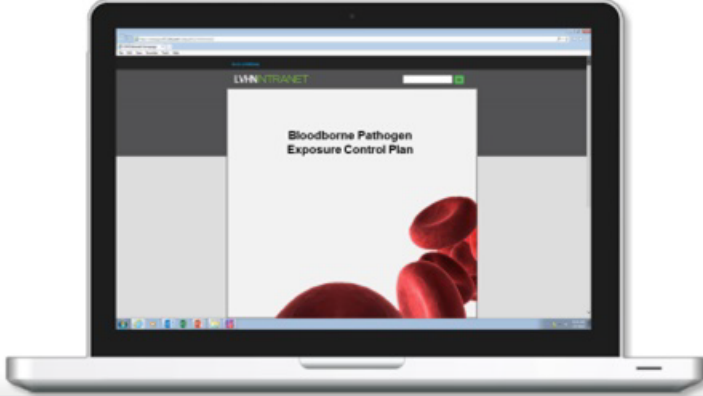
Notes:

In the event of a spill of blood or body fluid, soak up fluid immediately with disposable absorbent material and discard in a biohazard waste bag. Clean areas contaminated with spills of blood or other potentially infectious materials with a hospital approved disinfectant or a 1:10 dilution of freshly diluted sodium hypochlorite solution (bleach). Wear appropriate PPE during all stages of the cleaning process.

1.21 More Information

For More Information

Access the Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan from Policy Tech or your location's intranet page. It can be found in the Infection Control and Prevention Manual in the Lehigh Valley, LVH-Hazleton, and LVH-Schuylkill. At LVH-Pocono, you can find the Blood and Body Fluids Exposure Policy in the Employee Health Manual.

A laptop computer is shown from a slightly elevated front perspective. The screen displays a webpage with a white background and a dark header. The header contains the text 'LVH INTRANET' in green. Below the header, the main content area features the title 'Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan' in black text. To the right of the text, there is a graphic of several red blood cells. The laptop is silver and has a black keyboard area visible at the bottom.

Notes:

If you would like more information, please reference the Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan in Policy Tech or on your location's intranet page.